

House File 290 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 290

BY FISHER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the terms gender and sex, including a
2 person's sex designation listed on government documents.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 4.1, subsection 17, Code 2023, is amended
2 to read as follows:

3 17. *Number and gender.* Unless otherwise specifically
4 provided by law ~~the~~:

5 a. The singular includes the plural, and the plural includes
6 the singular.

7 b. Words of one gender include the other genders.

8 c. The term "gender", or the term "sex" when used in
9 reference to gender, means the biological sex designation of
10 male or female on a person's birth certificate.

11 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 27D.1 Sex designation listed on
12 government documents.

13 The state or any other governmental body, as defined
14 in section 21.2, shall not list a person's gender or sex
15 designation on any application, form, list, license, or other
16 document that is different from the gender or sex designation
17 listed on a person's official birth certificate.

18 EXPLANATION

19 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
20 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

21 Under current law, Code section 4.1 sets forth certain
22 general rules for the usage of terms throughout the Code.
23 This bill defines the terms "gender" and "sex", when used in
24 reference to gender, to mean the biological sex designation of
25 male or female on a person's birth certificate. Therefore,
26 when a Code section refers to gender or sex in reference to
27 its inclusion on an application, license, or other document
28 (for example, Code section 321.182, relating to driver's
29 licenses), the listed gender or sex must comply with the bill's
30 definition. Current Code section 144.23 provides that a new
31 certificate of birth is issued upon receipt of proof of a
32 change in sex designation.

33 In addition, the bill specifies that the state or any
34 governmental body is not allowed to list a person's gender or
35 sex designation listed on any application, form, list, license,

1 or other document that is different from the gender or sex
2 designation listed on the person's official birth certificate.